

CLAIMS:

1. In an assembly including a fluid coupling having an impeller and a runner, a circuit oil system including a diverter valve for sending circuit oil selectively to a cavity between said impeller and said runner or to a reservoir, a prime mover for rotating said impeller, and a machine operatively connected to be driven by said runner, the improvement comprising means for sensing a slowing of the rate of rotation of the runner and acting in response to said slowing of the runner beyond a predetermined point to actuate said diverter valve to send said circuit oil to said reservoir.

2. The improvement of claim 1, wherein the means for sensing a slowing of the rate of rotation of the runner senses the slowing of the rotation of the runner with respect to the impeller and acts in response to said slowing of the runner beyond a predetermined point with respect to the impeller to actuate said diverter valve to send said circuit oil to said reservoir.

3. The improvement of claim 2 wherein the means for sensing the slowing of the rate of rotation of the runner with respect to the impeller measures the slip speed as a percentage, and responds to the reaching of a preselected percentage to actuate the diverter valve.